

Partnership Chronicles

US Census Bureau

Philadelphia Regional Office

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Partnership and Data Services: We're Here to Serve You

Welcome to the first edition of *Partnership Chronicles*, the Philadelphia Regional Office's communiqué to the many wonderful partners we worked with during Census 2000.

In many ways, Census 2000 was unlike any other census. There were new uses of technology, new and greatly expanded operations, more customized local and regional programs and a more encompassing outreach through the unprecedented and highly recognized Partnership Program. For Census 2000, the U.S. Census Bureau had the pleasure of working with over 140,000 partners nationwide and 15,000 partners within the Philadelphia Region - partners whose creative efforts were surpassed only

by your commitment and dedication to the local community and constituents. Thanks to your dedication and hard work, the Census Bureau reversed the trend of declining participation witnessed in recent censuses, and increased the mail response rate over what was predicted.

The Partnership Program has changed over the past 2 years. It has merged with our Information Services Program and has become the Partnership and Data Services Program. Although, the size of our staff has dwindled dramatically, from 52 during the height of Census 2000 to a staff of four, they are as dedicated as before in working with our partners to help you access the

data which you so diligently assisted us in collecting. The Partnership and Data Services staff is trained to provide assistance to users of Census data. We are available by tele-



Students of Latin American Economic Development Association's Entrepreneurial Development Training Program during a Census workshop.

phone at 215-656-7578, by email at phro.pds@census.gov (continued on next page) or by using our reference center. If you are close to the Philadelphia Regional Office,

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The Other Nine Years

Many Americans are under the impression that the Census Bureau only works every 10 years, when we count the total population of the United States for the Decennial Census. When you read newspapers or magazines, watch TV or listen to the radio, there is a good chance that you will see or hear about work that

the Census Bureau does consistently throughout the decade, but you are unaware of it's connection to us.

The Census Bureau has staff in 12 regional offices throughout the country to manage its current economic and demographic survey operations. Surveys are used

because it simply costs too much and takes too long to ask every household the same set of questions.

Throughout the decade, we are continually conducting surveys to produce a general view and comprehensive study of the United (continued on page 3)



The Partnership and Data Services staff is trained to provide assistance to users of Census data.

our reference center is open to the public providing access to Census Bureau's printed reports. In addition, there are public computer user-station where you can look through Census CD-ROMs or have staff provide you with assistance on our website.

For larger audiences and those who are further away, Partnership and Data Services staff are available to participate in seminars or workshops on census and survey-related topics. We are able to deliver presentations

on census-related topics at meeting and provide hands-on-training to even the most novice census data-user. You can reach us by phone, email or request a workshop on line at www.census.gov/rophi/www/register.html. All of these services are free of charge.

Census data has been released on a flow basis, beginning with the Redistricting Data in the Winter of 1999, through the release of the short-form data contained within Summary Files 1 and 2 in 2000 and now we are

beginning the much anticipated release of the first of the 2 long form files, Summary File 3.

For those, who feel stressed by thoughts of the overwhelming amount of free data that is available to you online, we have put together the following handy starter guide to accessing census data.

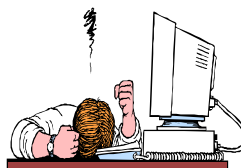
Accessing Detailed Census Data Using the

American FactFinder



Are you Stressing Accessing?

Does accessing data on the Census website make you want to scream in frustration? Well you're not alone.



Although our website is quite user-friendly, some people have trouble finding exactly what they are looking for due to the incredible amount of data that is available. Some compare it to finding a needle in a haystack.

Fortunately, the solution is in your hands! This brochure will help you ‘navigate’ through the American FactFinder to access detailed Census data in 4 easy steps.

Just type in the URL www.census.gov and access the American FactFinder by clicking on the icon located within the dark blue column on the left side of the homepage. Now, prepare to become a data accessing guru.




Select the

Data Sets

All tables and maps for all geographies including the U.S., states, counties, cities, towns, American Indian reservations, metropolitan areas, zip codes, census tracts, blocks, and more



- [2000 Summary File 1](#) Complete geographic detail to the block level.
- [2000 Summary File 2](#) Subjects for up to 249 race or ethnic groups.
- [1990 Summary Tape File 1](#) Similar subjects from the 1990 Census.

• **1990 Summary File 3**  Coming soon. See the [Release Schedule](#).



Annual Releases

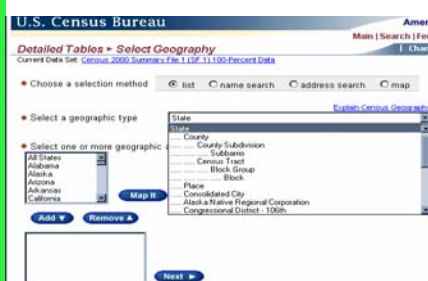
Decennial Supplementary Surveys Estimates of detailed subjects for all states and most areas with a population of 250,000 or more.

Locate the Data Sets area in the center of the FactFinder mainpage. This area serves as a gateway to all of the information that's stored in the American FactFinder. It opens the door to a wealth of Census data by allowing users to access all available tables for the Decennial Censuses for 1990 and 2000, the American Community Survey and Population Estimates for every geographic area available. For our purposes, we'll choose *2000 Summary File 1*. This will provide us access to the data asked of every individual from the largest geographic level - the Nation - to the smallest level - the block.

No Stress Accessing (continued)



Now you'll need to choose the type of tables you want. We'll choose the 'Detailed Tables' link. 'Detailed Tables' allows the user to choose up to 500 geographies and 50 tables per data set. This screen allows you to choose between Summary Files from 1990 and 2000 and also scroll through the available data sets mentioned in the previous step. By clicking on the tabs located at the top of the page you can choose to view tables from the Decennial Supplementary Surveys, the American Community Survey, Economic Censuses and Surveys, and Population Estimates.



Now it's time to choose the geographic area(s) to which you would like to concentrate your search.

- *Choose a selection method*—disregard this bulleted instruction and leave the selection method on 'list'.
- *Select a geographic type*—Here you can drop the menu down and choose the geographic type that best suits your needs (e.g. *Nation, State, Census Tract, Zip Code, Congressional District*). The 'County Subdivision' selection includes cities and towns by county. After selecting a type, follow any added directions.
- *Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'*—Once you have your areas listed in the box, click on your selection and then click the 'Add' button. Your selection should show up in the box below the 'Add' button.
- Click the 'Next' button located to the right of the lower box.



The next, and final step, is to select the table(s) that best suit your statistical needs.

- *Search*—Users can choose to search by 'show all tables' or 'by subject'.
- *Select one or more tables and click "Add"*—click on whichever table suits your needs and then click the 'Add' button. Your selection should show up in the box below the 'Add' button.
- Once you have selected all of your tables, click the 'Show Table' button.

Congratulations!
You've created your table.



The Other Nine Years (continued)

States' social and economic conditions

What is a survey? It is a representative sample of the entire population. The sample size is scientifically selected so that one household will be representative of many households. Therefore, surveys allow us to interview an authentic cross-section of households, individuals or special populations.

To conduct our surveys, the Philadelphia Regional Office has a staff of professional field representatives who gather data either in person or by phone. These field representatives collect information from households and businesses within the area covered by our office - Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, the 11 southern counties of New Jersey, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

and three counties in West Virginia.

The most recognized surveys are: The American Community Survey, Current Population Survey, National Crime Victimization Survey, Consumer Expenditure Survey, Survey of Income and Program Participation and the National Health Interview Survey.



The American Community Survey is one of many surveys conducted by the Census Bureau.

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American FactFinder

If you need to update your address, please fax,
mail or email your correct information to us.

We're on the web
www.census.gov



Regional Director's Greeting

Dear Census
2000 Partner:

I hope this
newsletter finds
you in good

health, while enjoying the
summer months.

Census 2000 has been unilat-
erally hailed as one the most
successful censuses in history.
With your assistance, we were
able to reverse the decades-
long downward spiral of re-
sponse rates. Using your in-
fluence, you were able to
make individuals and commu-
nities understand the impor-
tance of responding to the
census and how Federal and

local governments use census
data to determine funding for
a variety of programs.

In case you weren't aware,
information collected from
Census 2000 is available at no
cost on our website. The in-
side of this newsletter pro-
vides a brief overview on how
to obtain the data that is now
available. Also remember
that the Census Bureau col-
lects information more often
than once-a-decade. We are
out in the community every
day collecting information
that is used by policy makers
in the distribution of Federal
funds. All of this and more
can be found on our website.

If you need assistance in ac-
cessing census data or would
like to have a free Census
2000 presentation for your
staff or clients, please call our
Partnership and Data Services
staff at 215-656-7580

Sincerely,
Fernando E. Armstrong
Regional Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fernando E. Armstrong".